

# Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:  
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**Post-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), AND
- ☒ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation

Travel date(s): August 17-23, 2019

Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

## Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	\$5,040.50	\$1,678.18	\$751.82	\$2,942.76 (see attached for itemized list and descriptions)

## Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

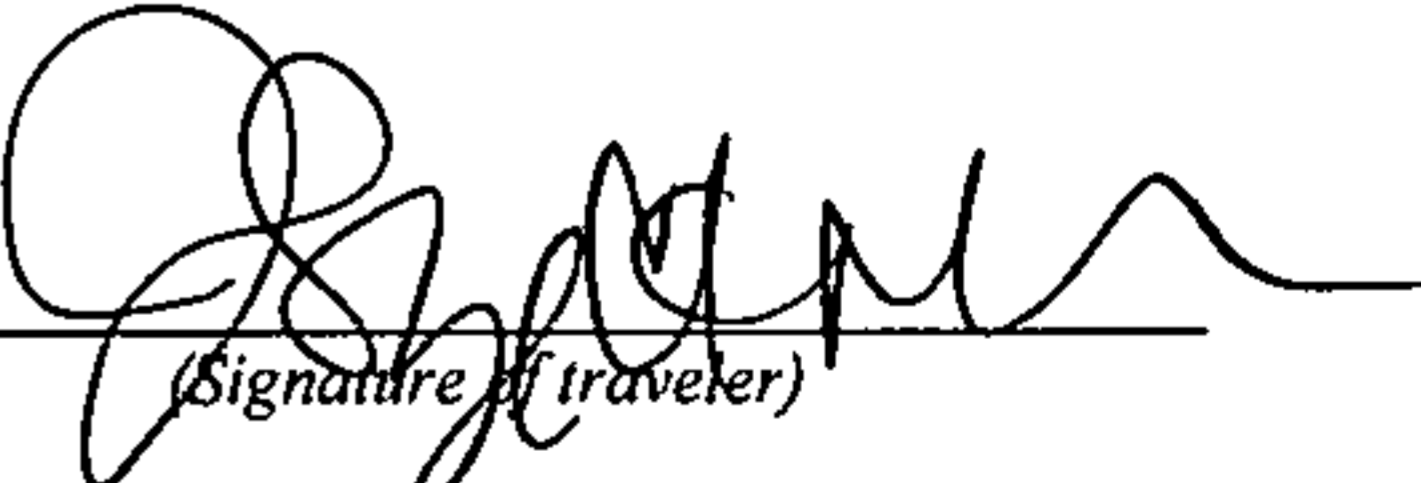
	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.):

See attached itinerary & descriptions.

9/23/19  
(Date)

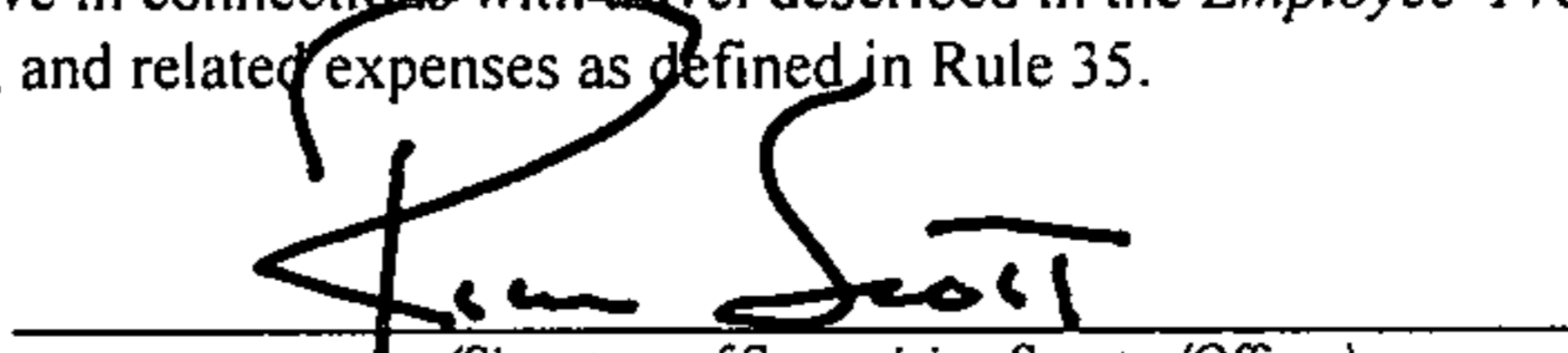
Jacqueline Schutz Zekman  
(Printed name of traveler)

  
(Signature of traveler)

## TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

9/23/2019  
(Date)

  
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)



- Other Expenses for Senator/ Officer: \$2,942.76 total**

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8:15-9:15 AM *Israel's Political Map*  
Prof. Reuven Hazan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
- at the hotel

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar. The group will also be arriving during an unprecedented interim Israeli government, as the Prime Minister was unable to form a coalition. Israeli voters who just went to the polls in March, will be heading back to the polls in September, making for a robust political conversation throughout the country.

10:30-11:30 AM Meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu  
-at the Prime Minister's Office

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with Israel's Prime Minister. Prime Minister Netanyahu is currently residing over an interim government, until elections are held for a second time this year in September

12:00-12:30 PM      *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
Wreath-Laying Ceremony  
-at Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

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7:45-9:45 PM      *US-Israel Relations*  
Dinner with U.S. Ambassador David Friedman  
-at the Ambassador's residence on Agron St.

**Meeting with Ambassador David Friedman**

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel. Ambassador David Friedman was the first bilateral ambassador to be confirmed in the Trump Administration. Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Mr. Friedman was a nationally top-ranked attorney, and a founding partner of Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman of New York, New York. He frequently represented high-profile clients in large and significant cases and has published articles and lectured on novel and complex areas of law. Ambassador Friedman has played a lead role in negotiating multilateral disputes in some of the nation's most complex business and financial restructurings. Well known for his excellent public speaking, negotiating and interpersonal skills, he has been active for decades in U.S. policy as it relates to Israel and the Middle East. He speaks and reads Hebrew and has traveled to Israel extensively. Ambassador Friedman earned a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

9:45 PM      Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Tuesday, August 20, 2019**

7:45 AM      Breakfast is Served

8:00-9:00 AM      *Cybersecurity*  
Breakfast with Yigal Unna  
Director General, Israel National Cyber Directorate  
-at the hotel

**Cybersecurity**

The United States and the State of Israel are working together to protect their cyberspace from attacks. Yigal Unna, Director General of the Israel National Cyber Directorate, will discuss the latest advancements in this burgeoning field, along with opportunities for the United States and Israel to partner on this issue.

9:15 AM      Depart

10:45-11:30 AM      *Israel's Southern Front: Part I*  
Briefing with IDF Southern Commander  
-at Nir Am or Black Arrow

11:30 AM      Depart

11:45 AM-12:45 PM *Israel's Southern Front: Part II*

Meeting and Tour with Chen Abrahams, Resident, Kibbutz Kfar Aza  
-at Kibbutz Kfar Aza

### **Israel's Southern Front**

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. During this strategic overview, participants will have the opportunity to visit an Israel Air Force Base to see the latest advancements in missile technology. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza and meeting with local residents will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

12:45 PM

Depart  
-Boxed Lunches En Route

1:15-1:45 PM

*Israel's Missile Defense Systems*  
Visit to Iron Dome Battery

### **The Iron Dome**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer.

1:45 PM

Depart

3:00-4:00 PM

*US-Israel Defense Relations*  
Lunch with Ari Sacher  
Marketing and Business Development Manager Land and Naval Division,  
Rafael  
-at the King David Hotel

### **U.S.-Israel Defense Relations**

Ari Sacher is a Rocket Scientist and has worked in the design and development of missiles for over twenty years. He has briefed hundreds of US Congressmen on Israeli Missile Defense and speaks regularly for the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Ari is highly regarded speaker, enabling even the layman to understand the "rocket science". During this session, he will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to Israel's development of multi-tiered missile defense system.

4:15-5:15 PM      *Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Looking Toward the Future*  
 Coffee with:  
     Gidon Bromberg, Director, EcoPeace Middle East  
     Yadin Kaufman and Saed Nashef, Founding Partners, Sadara Ventures  
     Project Rozana  
 -at the King David Hotel

**Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Looking Toward the Future**

Despite the lack of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, there's a burgeoning movement of Israelis and Palestinians committed to strengthening their business and personal relationships. During this session the delegation will hear from these young Palestinian students and entrepreneurs. These Palestinian innovators will share their personal experiences, their plans for growth in the Palestinian tech and entrepreneurship sectors, and their partnerships with Israelis.

5:15 PM              Meeting ends

7:00 PM              Depart

7:15-9:00 PM      *Start-Up Nation*  
 Dinner with  
     ▪ Shmuel Peleg, Briefcam  
     Elly Perets, Utilis  
     Cathy Sebag, Head of Products, Mobile ODT  
     Yonatan Wexler, OrCam  
 - at Kinor

**Start-Up Nation**

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

9:00 PM              Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Wednesday, August 21, 2019**

8:00 AM              Breakfast is served

8:15-9:15 AM      *Strategic Threats Overview*  
 Breakfast with Brig. Gen. (res.) Nitzan Nuriel  
 -at the hotel

### Strategic Threats Overview

As the delegation heads north to the borders with Lebanon and Syria, it is critical to understand the threats faced by Israel from these borders, both Iranian proxies. The briefing will cover the unique situation at each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

9:30 AM Depart

10:45-11:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Concerns*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe with Col. (res.) Miri Eisin

### Alfei Menashe

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley," as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

11:30 AM Depart

12:30-1:30 PM *Falafel and Shawarma Lunch*  
-in Yokne'am

1:30 PM Depart

2:45-3:45 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon*  
Briefing and Visit to Hezbollah Tunnel led by Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
-at Zarit

### Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's

national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region. She will brief the group on the current threats facing Israel by Iranian backed Hizballah in Lebanon.

3:45 PM	Depart
5:00 PM	Arrival at Scots Hotel, Tiberias
7:00 PM	Depart
7:15-9:30 PM	<i>Reflections on the Week</i> Dinner at Decks

#### **Dinner and Discussion**

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

9:30 PM	Overnight at the Scots Hotel
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#### **Thursday, August 22, 2019**

8:00 AM	Breakfast on your own -at the hotel
8:30 AM	Depart
9:00-11:00 AM	<i>Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee</i> Tour of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount St. Peter's Church ▪ Capernaum – Jesus' Village

#### **Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided survey and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic surveys in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

12:00-1:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*  
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria  
With Cpt. Ilan Shulman  
- at Ein Zivan

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

1:00 PM Depart

**1:15-2:30 PM**      *Ethics in the IDF*  
**Lunch with IDF Soldiers**  
**-at HaBokrim**

Ruach Tzahal (Literally, 'Spirit of the IDF') represents the values of the Israel Defense Forces and stands as the foundation for the responsibilities of Israel's army. This overarching ethical code, and the guidelines and operation resulting from it, shape the mode of action applied by all IDF soldiers and units, both in peace and at war. During basic training, every IDF soldier studies and analyzes the code of ethics together with their commanders. It is customary for a framed copy of the code to be hung in every commander's office as a constant reminder of the IDF's values and guidelines. During lunch, participants will be joined by soldiers in the Northern Command, who will discuss the challenges of serving in a region overtaken by the Syrian civil war.

2:30-5:30 PM Travel to Tel Aviv

2:30-3:30 PM      *En route briefings:*

- *The Jezreel Valley*
- *The Upper Galilee*

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

#### Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

6:30-8:30 PM      *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*  
Closing dinner  
-in Tel Aviv

#### Closing Dinner

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to

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8:30 PM

11:25 PM

**Friday, August 23, 2019**

4:30 AM

## Morning

## EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Date/Time Stamp:

**Pre-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220. Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved. This form must be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at [ethics.senate.gov](http://ethics.senate.gov). Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Jacqueline Schutz Zeckman

Employing Office/Committee: Senator Rick Scott

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israeli Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel date(s): August 17 - August 23, 2019

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you must notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Jerusalem, Israel; Tiberias, Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

The trip is designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship, while gaining an in-depth understanding of the complex historical, political, and geographic challenges faced by Israel in the region. This trip directly relates to the Chief of Staff's official duties in advising the Senator in matters of foreign affairs, international relations, and public policy.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): NONE

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/18/19  
(Date)

[Signature]  
(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Rick Scott hereby authorize Jacqueline Schutz Zeckman  
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/18/2019  
(Date)

[Signature]  
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

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June 3, 2019

Jackie Schutz Zeckman  
716 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Jackie,

On behalf of the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), we would like to invite you to participate in an educational seminar in Israel, August 17-23, 2019. The trip will depart Saturday afternoon, August 17; and return to the U.S. on Friday morning, August 23.

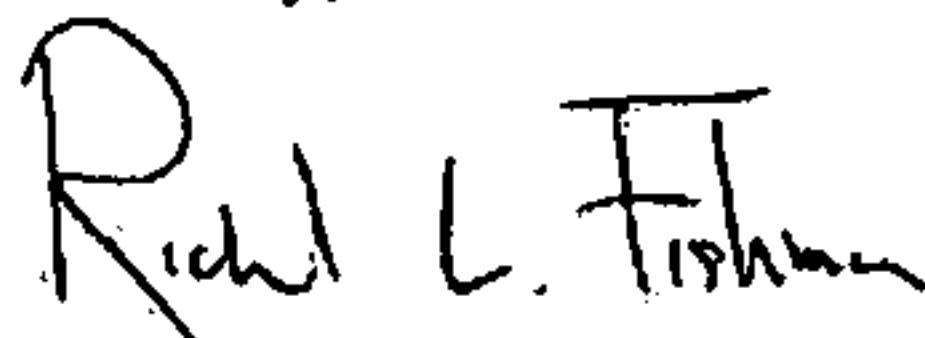
This seminar will delve into some of the most difficult issues facing Israel and the region. Israeli leaders from across the political spectrum, along with Palestinian leaders, will explore the peace negotiations and the obstacles to peace, the myriad of security threats facing the region, and the strategic relationship between the United States and Israel.

Participants will hear a wide array of viewpoints, including discussions with: members of the Israeli Knesset and the Palestinian Authority; U.S. government officials; military leaders; heads of non-governmental organizations; and prominent academics and journalists. The program will also include visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

All trip-related expenses will be paid for by AIEF, and all aspects of the trip will be in full conformity with Senate Ethics rules. AIEF will provide additional information to assure your compliance with ethics rules.

We hope you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. To confirm your participation, please complete the confirmation form, and return to [jperetz@aiefdn.org](mailto:jperetz@aiefdn.org). If you have any questions, please contact Julie Peretz at (202) 639-5192.

Sincerely,



Richard Fishman  
Executive Director, AIEF

## PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors):  
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Description of the trip:  
Please see addendum
3. Dates of travel: August 17 - August 23, 2019
4. Place of travel: Jerusalem and Tiberias ISRAEL
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached
6. I certify that the trip fits one of the following categories:  
☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.  
- OR -  
☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I certify that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.  
- AND -  
☒ I certify that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I certify that:  
☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.  
- AND -  
☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

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11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

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13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-relationship. The delegation will have the opportunity to meet with a diverse group of Israelis and Palestinians, and see first-hand the outcome of U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation in the region.

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14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Please see addendum

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- Please see addendum**

- |                                                                                                        | Transportation Expenses                                                                                                        | Lodging Expenses                                            | Meal Expenses                                             | Other Expenses                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts | \$5,398.71<br><br>air = \$4,771.44<br>bus = \$509.09<br>Syrian border transport = \$90.91<br>taxis = \$27.27<br><br>per person | \$1,258<br><br>JLM = \$972<br>TIB = \$286<br><br>per person | \$566<br><br>JLM = \$420<br>TIB = \$146<br><br>per person | \$4,198<br><br>Please see breakdown attached<br><br>per person |

- b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

- During the trip, participants will visit many cities and regions in Israel, to explore the strategic nature of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

- King David (King David Street 23, Jerusalem); Scots (Gdud Barak Street 1, Tiberias)**

- We chose these hotels due to their location and affordability.**

- Please see addendum**

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- Dulles-Newark (coach on a commercial airline); roundtrip Newark-Tel Aviv (business class on a commercial airline); charter bus and taxis on the ground in Israel; Newark-DCA (coach on a com. airline)

- none

- Signature of Travel Sponsor:**

E-mail Address: rhirsch@aiefdn.org

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
Senators Mike Braun (R-IN) and Rick Scott (R-FL)  
August 17 – 23, 2019**

**Senate Invitees**

1. The Honorable Mike Braun
2. The Honorable Rick Scott
3. Joshua Kelley, Chief of Staff, Sen. Mike Braun
4. Jackie Schutz Zeckman, Chief of Staff, Sen. Rick Scott

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**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar In Israel**  
**Senators Mike Braun (R-IN) and Rick Scott (R-FL)**  
**August 17 – 23, 2019**

**Addendum**

**2. Description of the Trip**

This seminar, which will be on the ground in Israel for four days, is specifically designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship. Some of the key issues to be addressed include: Iran's continued malign regional activities; the impact of Syrian civil war along Israel's northern border; the internal political situations of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the status of the peace process; and the expanded cooperation between the U.S. and Israel in fighting terrorism and proliferation.

The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials, as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence. The seminar also aims to provide the political, historic, and religious context to the current conflicts and issues facing Israel and the region. It will explore the connection the three monotheistic religions have with the land and the influence this connection has on today's struggles. In addition to formal meetings and briefings, the trip provides experiential opportunities to help better understand the geographical complications, the security implications, and the historic root causes of the current conflicts.

**14. Sponsoring Congressional Trips**

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, students, political consultants, as well as Christian, Latino, African American, Progressive, and Veteran leaders. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country. The most recent Senate trip was for Congressional staff in May 2019.

**15. Other Educational Activities**

AIEF grants support innovative and award-winning programming that educates a wide array of participants, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals.

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**-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.**

- Honoraria for guest speakers

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

**Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$290.91 per person**

- The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

- We pay a 7% hotel room commission to the company that books our hotels.

- We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

- Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

- On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

**-Tips for hotel staff**

Meal expenses are equal to the per diem rate for Jerusalem and Tiberias. Lodging expenses are less than the per diem for Jerusalem and Tiberias. Meal expenses include the cost for meals, snacks, and water on the bus. It does not include alcohol, as we do not pay for alcohol per Senate ethics rules.

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**Saturday, August 17, 2019**

10:50 PM Depart Newark

4:20 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport  
Transfer to Jerusalem

**6:30 PM**                      **Check in to the King David Hotel**

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30-8:00 PM	<i>Setting the Stage</i> Welcome and Orientation - at Touro
8:00-10:00 PM	<i>State of the Nation</i> David Horowitz, Editor, Times of Israel - at Touro

David Horovitz is the founding editor of *Times of Israel*, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz is will provide staff with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

10:00-10:30 PM      *Shalom Jerusalem*  
Introduction to the history of the city  
A brief walking tour

10:30 PM                      Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Monday, August 19, 2019**

8:00 AM                      Breakfast is served  
                                     - at the hotel

8:15-9:15 AM              *Israel's Political Map*  
                                     Prof. Reuven Hazan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
                                     - at the hotel

**Israel's Political Map**

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar. The group will also be arriving during an unprecedented interim Israeli government, as the Prime Minister was unable to form a coalition. Israeli voters who just went to the polls in March, will be heading back to the polls in September, making for a robust political conversation throughout the country.

9:15 AM                      Depart

10:30-11:30 AM          Meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu  
                                     -at the Prime Minister's Office

**Meeting with The Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu**

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with Israel's Prime Minister. Prime Minister Netanyahu is currently residing over an interim government, until elections are held for a second time this year in September

11:30 AM                      Depart

12:00-12:30 PM          *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
                                     Wreath-Laying Ceremony  
                                     -at Yad Vashem

**Yad Vashem**

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with.

documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state.

12:30 PM Depart

1:00-2:15 PM *Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide is the Gap?*  
Tal Becker, Senior Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
-at Anna

## Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide Is the Gap?

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

2:15 PM Depart

2:30-5:30 PM      *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part II: The Historic and Holy Basin*  
                          *Guided survey of the Old City of Jerusalem*

- City of David
- Southern Wall Excavations
- Western Wall
- Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Via Dolorosa

## Jerusalem

Throughout its 4,000-year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include

site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

#### **Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin**

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

#### **The City of David**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower from members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sites in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years.

At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

5:30 PM                      Return to hotel

7:30 PM                      Depart for dinner

7:45-9:45 PM

*US-Israel Relations*

Dinner with U.S. Ambassador David Friedman  
-at the Ambassador's residence on Agron St.

**Meeting with Ambassador David Friedman**

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel. Ambassador David Friedman was the first bilateral ambassador to be confirmed in the Trump Administration. Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Mr. Friedman was a nationally top-ranked attorney, and a founding partner of Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman of New York, New York. He frequently represented high-profile clients in large and significant cases and has published articles and lectured on novel and complex areas of law. Ambassador Friedman has played a lead role in negotiating multilateral disputes in some of the nation's most complex business and financial restructurings. Well known for his excellent public speaking, negotiating and interpersonal skills, he has been active for decades in U.S. policy as it relates to Israel and the Middle East. He speaks and reads Hebrew and has traveled to Israel extensively. Ambassador Friedman earned a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

9:45 PM

Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Tuesday, August 20, 2019**

7:45 AM

Breakfast is Served

8:00-9:00 AM

*Cybersecurity*

Breakfast with Yigal Unna  
Director General, Israel National Cyber Directorate  
-at the hotel

**Cybersecurity**

The United States and the State of Israel are working together to protect their cyberspace from attacks. Yigal Unna, Director General of the Israel National Cyber Directorate, will discuss the latest advancements in this burgeoning field, along with opportunities for the United States and Israel to partner on this issue.

9:15 AM

Depart

10:45-11:30 AM

*Israel's Southern Front: Part I*

Briefing with IDF Southern Commander  
-at Nir Am or Black Arrow

11:30 AM

Depart

11:45 AM-12:45 PM *Israel's Southern Front: Part II*

Meeting and Tour with Chen Abrahams, Resident, Kibbutz Kfar Aza  
-at Kibbutz Kfar Aza

#### **Israel's Southern Front**

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. During this strategic overview, participants will have the opportunity to visit an Israel Air Force Base to see the latest advancements in missile technology. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza and meeting with local residents will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

12:45 PM Depart  
-Boxed Lunches En Route

1:15-1:45 PM *Israel's Missile Defense Systems*  
Visit to Iron Dome Battery

#### **The Iron Dome**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer.

1:45 PM Depart

3:00-4:00 PM *US-Israel Defense Relations*  
Lunch with Ari Sacher  
Marketing and Business Development Manager Land and Naval Division,  
Rafael  
-at the King David Hotel

#### **U.S.-Israel Defense Relations**

Ari Sacher is a Rocket Scientist and has worked in the design and development of missiles for over twenty years. He has briefed hundreds of US Congressmen on Israeli Missile Defense and speaks regularly for the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Ari is highly regarded speaker, enabling even the layman to understand the "rocket science". During this session, he will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to Israel's development of multi-tiered missile defense system.

4:15-5:15 PM      *Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Looking Toward the Future*  
 Coffee with:  
 ▪ Gidon Bromberg, Director, EcoPeace Middle East  
 Yadin Kaufman and Saed Nashef, Founding Partners, Sadara Ventures  
 Project Rozana  
 -at the King David Hotel

**Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Looking Toward the Future**

Despite the lack of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, there's a burgeoning movement of Israelis and Palestinians committed to strengthening their business and personal relationships. During this session the delegation will hear from these young Palestinian students and entrepreneurs. These Palestinian innovators will share their personal experiences, their plans for growth in the Palestinian tech and entrepreneurship sectors, and their partnerships with Israelis.

5:15 PM              Meeting ends

7:00 PM              Depart

7:15-9:00 PM      *Start-Up Nation*  
 Dinner with  
 Shmuel Peleg, Briefcam  
 Elly Perets, Utilis  
 Cathy Sebag, Head of Products, Mobile ODT  
 ▪ Yonatan Wexler, OrCam  
 - at Kinor

**Start-Up Nation**

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital Investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

9:00 PM              Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Wednesday, August 21, 2019**

8:00 AM              Breakfast is served

8:15-9:15 AM      *Strategic Threats Overview*  
 Breakfast with Brig. Gen. (res.) Nitzan Nuriel  
 -at the hotel

### **Strategic Threats Overview**

As the delegation heads north to the borders with Lebanon and Syria, it is critical to understand the threats faced by Israel from these borders, both Iranian proxies. The briefing will cover the unique situation at each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

9:30 AM Depart

10:45-11:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Concerns*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe with Col. (res.) Miri Eisin

### **Alfei Menashe**

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley," as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

11:30 AM Depart

12:30-1:30 PM *Falafel and Shawarma Lunch*  
-in Yokne'am

1:30 PM Depart

2:45-3:45 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon*  
Briefing and Visit to Hezbollah Tunnel led by Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
-at Zarit

### **Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah**

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's

national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region. She will brief the group on the current threats facing Israel by Iranian backed Hizballah in Lebanon.

3:45 PM	Depart
5:00 PM	Arrival at Scots Hotel, Tiberias
7:00 PM	Depart
7:15-9:30 PM	<i>Reflections on the Week</i> Dinner at Decks

#### **Dinner and Discussion**

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

9:30 PM	Overnight at the Scots Hotel
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#### **Thursday, August 22, 2019**

8:00 AM	Breakfast on your own -at the hotel
8:30 AM	Depart
9:00-11:00 AM	<i>Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee</i> Tour of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount St. Peter's Church Capernaum – Jesus' Village

#### **Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided survey and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic surveys in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

11:00 AM Depart for the Golan Heights

12:00-1:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*  
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria  
With Cpt. Ilan Shulman  
- at Ein Zivan

#### **Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria**

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

1:00 PM Depart

1:15-2:30 PM *Ethics in the IDF*  
Lunch with IDF Soldiers  
-at HaBokrim

#### **Ethics in the IDF**

Ruach Tzahal (Literally, 'Spirit of the IDF') represents the values of the Israel Defense Forces and stands as the foundation for the responsibilities of Israel's army. This overarching ethical code, and the guidelines and operation resulting from it, shape the mode of action applied by all IDF soldiers and units, both in peace and at war. During basic training, every IDF soldier studies and analyzes the code of ethics together with their commanders. It is customary for a framed copy of the code to be hung in every commander's office as a constant reminder of the IDF's values and guidelines. During lunch, participants will be joined by soldiers in the Northern Command, who will discuss the challenges of serving in a region overtaken by the Syrian civil war.

2:30-5:30 PM Travel to Tel Aviv

2:30-3:30 PM *En route briefings:*  
*The Jezreel Valley*  
*The Upper Galilee*

#### **The Jezreel Valley**

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

#### **Upper Galilee**

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren, Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

6:30-8:30 PM      *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*  
Closing dinner  
-in Tel Aviv

#### **Closing Dinner**

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to

the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

8:30 PM Depart for the airport

11:25 PM Depart Ben-Gurion Airport

**Friday, August 23, 2019**

4:30 AM Arrive at Newark

Morning Flights to various airports from Newark

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<sup>2</sup> The term “any point throughout your trip” has a specific definition. See *Select Committee on Ethics’ Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel – Glossary of Terms* at 2.

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The Committee has determined that § 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that are classified as private foundations, as opposed to public charities, may not pay for transportation from the United States to a foreign country.<sup>3</sup> However, AIEF represented to the Committee that it is a § 501(c)(3) public charity, as opposed to a private foundation, pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.<sup>4</sup>

Please be advised that the United States Constitution prohibits the acceptance of any gift, including a meal, from a foreign government without the consent of Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), Congress consented to the acceptance by federal government officials of: (1) gifts of minimal value and (2) travel or the expenses for travel taking place entirely outside the United States, from a foreign government (which includes those acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government).<sup>5</sup> The Senate has defined minimal value as \$100 or less. Further, pursuant to FGDA, there are certain reporting and procedural requirements that are imposed upon Members, officers, and employees who accept gifts from a foreign government. Please review the Committee's "Dear Colleague" letter of January 11, 2019, setting forth the items to be included in filing that report.

Finally, Senate Rule 34 requires a reporting individual,<sup>6</sup> on his or her Financial Disclosure Report, to make an annual disclosure of the receipt of payments or reimbursements under Senate Rule 35 from a private sponsor for officially-related travel expenses where, in the aggregate, travel expenses exceed \$390 from that sponsor during a calendar year. However, if a Member, officer, or employee properly reports the receipt of necessary expenses for such travel to the Secretary of the Senate within 30 days of the travel, as discussed above, the travel expenses need not be disclosed a second time on their Financial Disclosure Report.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Sincerely,



Deborah Sue Mayer  
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

Enclosure: Travel Checklist

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<sup>3</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 4941 et seq. Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code broadly defines non-profit, charitable, tax-exempt organizations. These § 501(c)(3) organizations are then further defined or designated as "public charities" and "private foundations."

<sup>4</sup> 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

<sup>5</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

<sup>6</sup> A reporting individual is someone whose salary equals or exceeds 120% of the basic rate of pay for GS-15 (\$127,914 for CY 2019) or is a political fund designee and is required to file Financial Disclosure Reports.